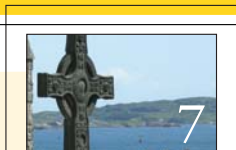


connection



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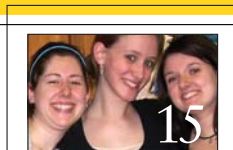
Fall 2008
Vol. 14-3



Celtic Tour



Launch Moments



Student Reflections

Tyndale Launches Public Phase of \$58 million Uncommon Ground Capital Campaign

Cabinet calls for participation in this historic opportunity

On Saturday, May 31, 2008, friends and supporters gathered at Morrow Park, the home of Tyndale's new campus, to mark the official public launch of *Uncommon Ground: Tyndale's Campaign for the Future*.

It is believed to be one of the largest fundraising campaigns undertaken by a Christian organization in Canadian history. The objectives of the \$58 million campaign are to underwrite the cost of the Morrow Park property; to refurbish the new campus and existing Ballyconnor campus and to provide seed funds for new and growing university and seminary programs.

This event marked an historic moment for Tyndale as it signified a literal move 'from the cul-de-sac to the main street.' Campaign leaders talked about Tyndale's vision for expanding the university and seminary and outlined how the campaign will support this vision.



During its quiet phase, the campaign raised \$37 million. President Brian C. Stiller commented, "We are thrilled with the generosity of those who have contributed to the first phase of the campaign. It's a strong beginning as we reach to achieve the goal of \$58 million that will allow us to implement our vision for future expansion. That expansion means that we will graduate more and more students who will inspire, effect transformation, instill justice and serve humanity as leaders – in Canada and the world."

Dignitaries, faculty, alumni, staff and volunteers shared in the celebratory service and attendees said they were inspired and challenged by the encouraging words.

Campaign Chair Tim Hearn, recently retired Chairman and CEO of Imperial Oil Limited, remarked "My dedication to this project comes from my understanding of the needs for our children and our coming generations. In a secular age, who will help our young people to

—continued on page 5

Pastoral and Chinese Ministry Program Celebrates 20 years of Service

May 4, 2008 was as memorable as it was historic. On that day the Pastoral and Chinese Ministry (PCM) Program celebrated its 20th Anniversary. A gala banquet featured the theme, *Thanksgiving for a Pioneering Ministry—Visioning for a New Century of Challenges*. About 450 persons were in attendance. This included members of the Chinese Ministry and Tyndale faculty, staff, alumni, donors and also friends. It is estimated that a significant majority of pastors in the Greater Toronto Area from the Chinese community are Tyndale graduates.

At the banquet, the keynote speaker, Dr. Rod Wilson, President of Regent College (Vancouver), brought a motion of solidarity that was formally passed by its faculty. The motion expressed a shared, "deep love for China and its peoples" and congratulated the Chinese Ministry program on this milestone of excellent ministry. Wilson encouraged attendees to become conduits of God's loving purposes and so provide meaningful support to the administrative team: Dr. Barbara Leung Lai, Director of PCM and Nelly Chau, PCM Administrator and Ministry Coordinator.

Dr. Daniel Aleshire, Executive Director of the

Association of Theological Schools and Dr. Carver Yu, President of China Graduate School of Theology brought greetings on behalf of their institutions, as well. As a research and ministry arm of PCM, the Hudson Taylor Centre was established in 2001. The centre's mandate has been to advance Chinese ministries in North America and the world. It is focused on conducting and facilitating scholarly research on Chinese ministries and appropriating such findings into frontline ministries. Annually there are many opportunities for professional development in the form of training, seminars, and consultations.

Message from the President Brian C. Stiller

Growing a Vision

Excerpted from President Brian C. Stiller's Address at the Uncommon Ground Campaign Launch, May 31, 2008

A COMPELLING VISION

My heart is full today. For today we announce publicly our commitment to build in this community an outstanding centre of Christian higher education. *Why today?*

In our time we wrestle with day-to-day market-driven issues that influence family, community and nation. However, there are deeper, profound realities that do more than alter driving habits or modify the collection of garbage. They fundamentally affect our sense of self, family, personal and community responsibility and who we are in this expanding cosmos.

The cultural sands dramatically shifted in the late 1960s. Canada began to lose its Christian presence in the world of public endeavors. That loss came by way of three Christian communities. The Roman Catholic community, beginning dramatically in Quebec, suffered an enormous loss of influence and presence. And given Canada is 47% Catholic, when she shifts, the entire culture feels it. Mainline Protestantism lost presence in numbers and moral and spiritual influence. The evangelical community trapped in a sectarian mind-set had neither capacity nor understanding of what it meant to engage in public square ideas or to exert influence. As a result, the space of religious influence was left rather empty.

And yet we live in a surprising age. What seems to be counter-intuitive, is strong and vibrant—an undercurrent of interest in the Christian faith.

So as a Christian community, very much rooted in the historic evangelical church, we believe it is time to take this Christian faith—vibrant in its beliefs and transformative in its potential—mainstream. It is time to go from a cul-de-sac to the main street.



OUR CALLING

In this secular and pluralistic world, there are various options on how we might see our calling.

First the **Christendom** model, in which Christians insist on dominating by way of laws, rulings and preferential treatment. How unbiblical. How unworkable.

Second is the **accommodation** model. Preferred by some who insist on the “freedom from religion” it is not unlike the school teacher who asked the children what game they wanted to play at recess. Some wanted hopscotch, others volleyball and some dodge ball. “Well, class,” the teacher responded, “since we can’t agree on one game, we won’t play any game.”

Our calling is neither of the above. Instead we are captured by the **engagement** model. **Life is not “our way or the highway.”** It is to walk the roads of our world, living out the life and presence of Jesus.

So what would best characterize a Tyndale graduate? If people said, “*They so loved us that nothing was too much for them to give up, in the honour of the Christ they follow or for the well-being of those they serve.*”

Our commitment is this: to prepare graduates who are marked by the life and teachings of Jesus Christ, who inspire hope, who effect transformation, who seek justice and lift humanity, in service as leaders to Canada and the world.

And where will those engagements take place? In the dark and lonely places which a narcissistic generation avoids. In the words of German theologian Dietrich Bonhoeffer, “When Christ calls you, he calls you to die.”

CONCLUSION

So today we move forward. This is a beginning. Today, we give thanks to God for his provision and enablement. We celebrate with gratitude the enormous gifting already made by some of you here today. We ask you to join us in completing the task.

Editor's Note

Great things are happening at Tyndale and just in time for the fall semester. Our institution continues to tread on uncommon ground and rewrite history. The public launch of Tyndale's Capital Campaign signifies a major milestone in our rich tradition. It declares the transition to making Christian higher education more attainable to a multitude of students.

As Tyndale progresses, it is exciting to see the creation of many programs as we welcome the new cohort of students. It is evident our institution will reach great heights as we continue to launch new and exciting programs such as the Bachelor of Education and the Doctor of Ministry programs.

This issue of *Connection* will highlight many great things that are occurring at Tyndale such as the induction of new faculty, the celebration of the Pastoral and Chinese Ministry and Leading Edge Programs and also the reintroduction of Homecoming.

It is evident this semester will bring a season of great faith and optimism.

—Natascha Carr is the Acting Managing Editor of *Connection* and also Corporate Communications Assistant at Tyndale University College & Seminary.

Corrections

On page five of Volume 14-2, Dr. Mariano Di Gangi's name and date of birth were misstated. The correct spelling of his name is Di Gangi not DiGangi and his date of birth is July 25, 1923 not July 2, 1923.

On page 12 two people are incorrectly identified. The photo caption should have read, Mel Finlay; Ron and Ann Mainse, hosts of 100 Huntley Street, engaged in a lively discussion.

The editorial team of *Connection* regrets these errors.

Connection

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Grads receive message on the first deadly sin

3

Graduation Chapel was held on April 8, 2008 at the Sisters of St. Joseph Chapel at Morrow Park. At the chapel, the graduating class, faculty and staff received a life-changing message on the deception of pride.

The message entitled, "The First Deadly Sin," was delivered by Sunder Krishnan, Senior Pastor of Rexdale Alliance Church. During the message, Krishnan addressed the problems arising with a mindset that openly embraces pride. Throughout his message he illustrated why it is important to understand what pride is in order to know how to deal with it properly as Christians. He said embracing pride can lead to a proud spirit and this can lead to other ungodly things.

"Pride is universal and it is the essence of a

satanic mindset. This is a frame of mind that needs to be dealt with," says Krishnan. He says there are many warning signs of pride but many people do not recognize them because pride changes in many ways. "Pride always divides. Pride is good at camouflaging itself. Christians need help in detecting it," says Krishnan.

His message aimed to let audience members understand that pride is hard to detect. He also brought attention to the fact that many Christians try to justify their actions even when they are wrong.

Krishnan told attendees that pride can be recognized if defensive feelings arise when receiving constructive criticism.

After the sermon, one student from the university and another from the seminary graduating class presented reflections about

their experiences at Tyndale.

University student Luke Haggert reflected on the experience and memories he received at Tyndale. He suggested that many students will also go on the same journey.

"The experiences and memories students will endure at Tyndale will be a strong determining factor in shaping who they are," Haggert said.

Seminary student Karen West remembered how her brain felt stretched from all of the studying. She soon came to realize it was more than that. "The studying of God's Word stirs awareness and I was able to think about the church and the world differently," she says.

—Natasha Carr is Tyndale's Corporate Communications Assistant.

Learning life lessons at graduation

Graduation is a day of transition, from a dream fulfilled to ones to be realized. Once they were students who animated the halls of Tyndale University College & Seminary. Now they are graduates, stepping out into a world of emerging opportunities.

The graduation ceremony this year was held on May 10, 2008 at Queensway Cathedral in Etobicoke. It gave everyone a chance to reflect on how important their accomplishments were.

This is the day all students strive for. When it comes it is a milestone for the graduate, but also a noble day for family, faculty and staff. It is a chance to see the living success stories of once struggling students, now graduates with degrees, diplomas and certificates.

It is also the time of year when students instantly transform into members of the Alumni Association. Outside these walls they represent Tyndale. Once students make the transition to alumni, they become part of the school's rich history. Now it is their turn to create their own history with the teachings they have received here.

During the ceremony two students from each graduating class offered their reflections. This year 169 students graduated.

"Today we stand as testimonies to our



▲ Grads anticipate their moment to walk on stage.

God," says Ashley Saunders, who received an Honours Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies. Saunders said that Tyndale taught her some real-life lessons that have transformed her. "Tyndale has changed us. We leave as different men and women than when we began," she says.

Initially she was nervous about leaving her small town of Owen Sound to begin a new life at Tyndale. It was a place far from her familiar settings. She says she experienced the same fear when her parents dropped her off to summer camp as a child. Nevertheless, her time and accomplishments at Tyndale created enduring memories. Now she stands as a new member of the alumni family and says her choice of a school was right.

"I could've received a degree anywhere, but I'm so glad I came here and experienced life change at Tyndale," says Saunders.

Despite all of the anxiety many graduates experienced before this day, by the end of it, everyone realized it was worth every late night and hurried paper. It was clear that students were ready to enter into the next milestone of their lives. But with God clearly in control.

"We leave Tyndale as men and women ready to serve the church. We are filled with ideals, dreams and visions. But it is only when we loosen our grip on these visions of life that God will

continually surprise us," said Scott Moore. He received a Master of Divinity in Pastoral Ministry.

Moore was passionate about the teachings he learned at Tyndale and how it made him embrace the concept of surprise.

"Surprise is everything I learned at Tyndale. It is the beauty of Tyndale that opens up a world of surprise," he says.

The graduating classes also received a powerful message from Tyndale honorary doctorate recipient, Ajith Fernando. Fernando's address was entitled, "Life and Work in Tough Settings." He addressed the frustrations many graduates will face once outside their academic life. He warned graduates to be aware of "bitter righteous people [because] they are also dangerous."

Fernando reminded grads to remain steadfast and focus on what God has in store.

"Do good unto the Lord increasingly. It is not futile. Our obedience to God is a building block in constructing the new Kingdom," he says.

He reminded graduates that "God's reward is always there, even though the lazy and dishonest seem to get away with their bad behaviour."

—Natasha Carr is Tyndale's Corporate Communications Assistant.



▲ Honorary degree recipient Ajith Fernando reflects before addressing the crowd.

Milestone for Tyndale as BEd Launches

It was an historic day for Tyndale. On Tuesday, July 8, 2008, the Bachelor of Education program began at the new Bayview campus. The inaugural cohort of teacher candidates gathered together in the auditorium to meet their classmates and professors for the first time.

Dr. Daniel Scott, Dean of the university, led a brief dedication service in the morning before orientation to the program began. Tyndale staff and faculty were on hand to show their support. After many years of hard work by faculty, staff, administrators and outside supporters, the start of the BEd program was a time of celebration.

"The first day of the BEd program was exciting and momentous," said Dr. Scott. "I stood at the front door and welcomed new candidates as they arrived. It marked the launch of a program that will have significant influence throughout our educational system."

Dr. Carla Nelson, BEd Director, said "the teacher candidates are extremely enthused to be developing their professional understanding and skills."

The summer term includes a foundational course called "*Democratic Values, Christian Perspectives, and Education*" taught by Dr. Elmer Thiessen and "*Democratic Values, Catholic Perspectives, and Education*" taught by Patricia O'Reilly (for those students preparing to teach in Separate Schools). Vera Teshow, an administrator and classroom teacher from Peel Board, is teaching "*Creating Safe, Engaging and Inclusive Learning Environments*." A Tyndale Board member and a Toronto District School Board Principal, Beverly Muir is teaching "*The Education Act and Ethical Standards for the Teaching Profession*." Robyn McMaster and Dr. Ellen Weber of the MITA Brain Based Centre are co-teaching "*The Developing Learner*."

After the summer term, the teacher candidates will begin a fall term that includes a number of practice teaching days. Tyndale's unique 12-month program offers teacher candidates over 100 practica days, far beyond what is offered in many BEd programs, providing candidates with the experience they need to be successful. Rick Cunningham, a retired principal, is the Coordinator of Teacher Candidate Placements. He has negotiated practice teaching placements in eight Greater Toronto Area school boards.

The next cohort will begin in July 2009. Enrollment is limited. Learn more at www.tyndale.ca/university/education.



BEd FACULTY

Core Faculty

Carla Nelson	PhD, University of Alberta
Douglas Hayhoe	PhD, University of Toronto
(also Faculty Advisor)	
Elmer Thiessen	PhD, University of Waterloo
Jane MacIntyre	MA, University of Waterloo
(also Faculty Advisor)	

Part Time Instructors

Beverley Ann Muir	MEd, O.I.S.E., University of Toronto
C. Robert Foster	EdD, O.I.S.E., University of Toronto
Carol Scaini	MEd, University of Toronto
Danny Seto	MDiv, Tyndale Seminary
Donna Donalds	MA, University of Toronto
Kimberly Maich	PhD, Philosophy (cand.), Brock University
Michael Ling	MTeach, Griffith University
Philip Howard	PhD, Philosophy (cand.), O.I.S.E., University of Toronto
Rick Cunningham	MEd, O.I.S.E., University of Toronto
Trevor Brown	MA, York University
(also Faculty Advisor)	
Vera Teschow	MEd, O.I.S.E., University of Toronto

Faculty Advisors

Bryan Dixon	MDiv, Tyndale Seminary
Diane Letsche	MEd, York University
Joanne Williams	BEd, University of Toronto
John (Jack) Helferty	MEd, University of Toronto
Michael Wodlinger	PhD, University of Alberta
Peter Ferguson	BA, York University

New faculty announcements:

Daniel Driver (PhD, Old Testament [cand.], University of St. Andrews) has been appointed as Assistant Professor of Religious Studies. The title of his thesis is "*Scripture's Textual Authority: The Work of Brevard Childs in International Context*."

W. Paul Franks (PhD, Philosophy [cand.], University of Oklahoma) has been appointed as Lecturer of Philosophy. He specializes in the area of philosophy of religion with interests in metaphysics, ethics and modern philosophy.

Douglas Hayhoe (PhD, University of Toronto) has been appointed as Associate Professor of Education. He comes with a significant number of years in the public school sector as a classroom teacher, textbook designer and trainer of trainers.

Bradley Truman Noel (ThD, University of South Africa) has been appointed as Director of Pentecostal Studies and Assistant Professor of Christian Ministries. He completed his Doctorate of Theology in Pentecostalism and Postmodernism and has extensive experience with the Pentecostal communities in Newfoundland and Labrador.

Elmer Thiessen (PhD, University of Waterloo) has been appointed as Research Professor in Education. Dr. Thiessen brings significant teaching experience at a public institution. His most recent book is *In Defence of Religious Schools and Colleges* published by McGill-Queen's University Press in 2001.

University Updates

Expanded offerings in Music: Siegfried Tepper will be teaching "*Introduction to Music I and II*" and leading a Choral Ensemble. There will also be *Piano* (taught by Mr. Tepper) and *Vocal I* (taught by Charlene Pauls). Lessons are also available.

The Board of Governors recently appointed Dr. Stanley Walters as Professor Emeritus. Dr. Walters (Professor of Religious Studies) will be teaching *Hermeneutics* in the fall and winter semesters.

The university will be offering a number of online courses this fall and winter (Psychology, Business Administration, Geography, English and Religious Studies).

The Pentecostal Studies track will begin this fall. In partnership with the Pentecostal Assemblies of Newfoundland and Labrador (PAONL); students will be able to complete either a Bachelor of Religious Studies or a Bachelor in Religious Education with a focus in Pentecostal Pastoral or Youth Studies. This will allow the students to obtain credentials with the PAONL.

Posterski Named to the R. J. Bernardo Family Chair of Leadership

Internationally known Christian leader, speaker and author Dr. Don Posterski will serve as the R. J. Bernardo Family Chair of Leadership at Tyndale Seminary for the coming academic year. The endowed Chair of Leadership, one of the few of its kind in North American theological schools, aims to raise the bar of excellence in Christian leadership in the church, the marketplace, and the public sphere.

Posterski has held the position of Research Professor of Christianity and Culture at the seminary since 2004. He recently completed 17 years of distinguished service as a senior executive with World Vision. His background



Dr. Don Posterski

also includes pastoral ministry and 16 years on the leadership staff of InterVarsity Christian Fellowship. Throughout his vocational career, Posterski has demonstrated outstanding leadership capacities and effectiveness.

"We are convinced Don will make a stellar contribution to the Leadership Chair," says Dr. Janet Clark, Dean of Tyndale Seminary. "His life-long focus on developing leaders, his astute capacities for contextual analysis, his research and communication skills, and his passion for justice form a rich and distinctive location from which to wrestle with the leadership issues of our time."

Posterski assumes the Chair of Leadership on an interim basis, following the tenure of Dr. Paul Magnus. Part of Posterski's role will be to strategize for the next chapter in the development of the Chair of Leadership and the Tyndale Centre for Leadership.

Thanks to the generous endowment of the Chair of Leadership by the R.J. Bernardo family, every seminary student at Tyndale receives leadership education as part of their studies. As Posterski notes, "All students are streamed into a leadership learning experience where they come face to face with themselves, and their potential to lead personally and vocationally. This affirmation of leadership as a way to live can re-order how people view themselves and how they understand how God wants to use them."

Bramer Appointed Inaugural Director for Doctor of Ministry Program

Dr. Paul Bramer has been appointed as Director of the new Doctor of Ministry program at Tyndale Seminary.

"We are delighted that Dr. Bramer has accepted the challenge to serve as the inaugural director of this exciting new doctoral program at Tyndale," says Dr. Janet Clark, Dean of Tyndale Seminary. "He brings to the position the capacities and competencies needed to launch and lead a first-class program of advanced ministry education for Christian leaders."

Born and raised in Ontario, Bramer has extensive ministry and teaching experience in Canada, including three years at Tyndale in the early 1990s. He is an ordained minister with the Evangelical Covenant Church and a trained spiritual director with a master's degree in educational administration from Brock University and a PhD from Trinity Evangelical Divinity School. Most recently he has served for 13 years on the faculty of North Park Theological Seminary in Chicago where he directed a master's program, helped develop Centers for Youth Ministry Studies and Spiritual Direction, and taught in the areas of Christian spirituality, formation and leadership.

"The vibrancy of the church in Canada and the world depends on leaders and pastors who are growing and mature," noted Bramer, who started July 1, 2008. "This professional doctorate is designed to facilitate that growth and further equip Christian leaders to guide their organizations and congregations into new levels of mission and maturity."

Bramer's proven record as an effective educator, administrator, researcher and ministry mentor along with his expertise in technology-assisted distance learning, are significant assets that will greatly enhance a program that is drawing interest from ministry leaders across Canada and the world.

Tyndale's Doctor of Ministry is currently accepting applications for the first cohort of students who will begin their studies in May 2009. The degree is targeted to ministry leaders who aim to increase their ministry effectiveness, grow spiritually and professionally, and develop their leadership capacities. For more information visit www.tyndale.ca/seminary/DMin or contact Paul Bramer (416) 226-6620 ext. 2272.



Dr. Paul Bramer

Tyndale Launches...

—continued from page 1

understand that all of our life is the Lord's?"

Hearn firmly believes in the foundations of a Christian education and the necessity of higher Christian learning. "Who will engage the minds of our young people with the vision of what God can do through a life dedicated to His service?"

Hearn also recognizes the historic accomplishment of Tyndale. "In purchasing this beautiful property, Tyndale has taken an enormous step forward in its vision of both educating students as well as building a Christian values-based system for our country. I want to encourage all of us here today to join together in helping Tyndale realize this uncommon opportunity for the praise of our God and in service of our nation."

Secretary of State Jason Kenney (Multiculturalism and Canadian Identity), brought greetings on behalf of the federal government and praised Tyndale for its contribution to Canadian society: "Christian institutions have a particular role to play in our society. As leaven, they activate and animate society from within – as do other institutions of faith. We should acknowledge that Canadian Christians have a magnificent history of being leaven in our society. The generous donors who helped to build this place and who are funding its renewal as part of the Tyndale traditions are to be especially commended for their role in enriching Canadian society."

The four distinguished Tyndale Alumni who spoke at the event were Chris Lewis, Sarah Lublink, Minho Song and Marion Goertz. These alumni exemplify this "leaven" in society as they shared how the impact of a Tyndale education has contributed to their view of service in their world.

Full speeches and press coverage of the event are on the campaign website: www.tyndale.ca/campaign. For more information on the campaign, please refer to the special pull out brochure enclosed.

Tyndale Alumnus Retires in Taiyuan

Shanxi, Taiyuan is a northern industrial city southwest of Beijing in the People's Republic of China. It is not a typical location for a retired business leader and missionary. The air quality due to pollution and sandstorms is bad. And the history for evangelicals is sobering. In 1900, in front of the Provincial Governor, 77 unarmed missionaries were martyred during the Boxer Rebellion in Taiyuan. And yet a Tyndale alumnus lives happily in retirement in this city on the great plain west of the Taihong Mountains. His name is Dr. Edvard P. Torjesen.

A *Newsweek* article (June 2008) tells how Dr. Torjesen came to retire in Taiyuan. Edvard's father, Peter Torjesen was a Norwegian evangelist who sheltered wartime refugees until the Japanese dive-bombed his mission in 1939 and killed him as a "people's martyr." After the war, denied entry to the United States and not wishing to return to Norway, Edvard Torjesen came to Canada under the "China quota." This was fixed at 105 people per year between 1943 and 1965. He studied at then Ontario Bible College in 1947.

He went on to serve as a missionary in

Now, with Finn Torjesen as the Executive Director and some 25 expatriate workers and some 25 Chinese workers, Evergreen is openly Christian and faithfully serving China in a variety of ways: agricultural, medical, consulting, education and economic development.

well as several other languages), why not have him retire in Taiyuan?

In April 2008 I visited Shanxi Evergreen Service with the hope of establishing an internship site for students in Tyndale's Business Administration—International Development Program and met with Finn



▲ (from left to right) Sandy Torjesen, Edvard Torjesen (PhD), Daniel Scott, and Finn Torjesen, MBA, Executive Director of Shanxi Evergreen Service.

"An immigrant mentality says, 'I love this place, I'm going to be a part of this community, I'm going to put my roots down here.'"

Asia. He became an expert in languages and worked on scripture translation into Taiwanese and Mongolian dialects. He also published *Fredrik Franston: A Model for Worldwide Evangelism* (Pasadena: William Carey Library, 1983).

In 1990 the Shanxi government invited Edvard's North American offspring back to Shanxi to unveil a monument to Peter Torjesen. Shanxi's Vice Governor addressed the 15 or so family members, including Edvard Torjesen and his son Finn. He said, "You are the picture of an old Chinese family—three generations gathered to honour an ancestor. We want your kind of people back in China."

In response, the Torjesen family founded the Colorado-based Shanxi Evergreen Service, a non-profit humanitarian group. In so doing they accepted the invitation to help China with its social and economic needs. Evergreen's purpose is "to assist Shanxi and other Chinese provinces by developing public benefit services for the common people, continuing the good works of Ye Yongqing (Leaf Evergreen, i.e. Peter Torjesen), acknowledging God's gracious calling in our lives and reflecting the credibility of Christ."

Evergreen has not only assisted Shanxi province. The US Congressional Record for June 10, 1997, notes that the Committee on Finance held meetings on issues with regard to the United States Administration's renewal of the Most-Favoured-Nation (MFN) trade status with China and the United States. Testimony was received from Madeleine K. Albright, Secretary of State; Edvard P. Torjesen, Executive Director of Shanxi Evergreen Service and others. On June 17, 1997, Torjesen also addressed the U.S. – China Trade Relations and Renewal of China's MFN status Hearing before the Subcommittee on Trade of the Committee on Ways and Means of the House of Representatives.

After a distinguished career, Edvard P. Torjesen retired. Unfortunately the Torjesen family soon had a difficult problem to face. Edvard now lived in long-term care in the U.S. Northwest. He had developed Alzheimer's and it was advancing. He was becoming difficult for his caregivers, not to mention it was very costly for the family to support him in retirement. The family made a crucial decision: since dad had grown up in China until the time his father was martyred and since he spoke Mandarin (as

Torjesen. Finn took me to see his father who is living happily in an apartment and cared for around the clock by four Chinese Christian caregivers. Although suffering from Alzheimer's, he is happy in his home. He eats well, listens to his music, plays his harmonica and is close to his family. Despite advancing Alzheimer's, his prayer of blessing upon me and my wife still resonates with us. We were privileged to meet with such a godly man.

Tyndale students in Business Administration—International Development will be able to do internships with Shanxi Evergreen Service. As a result, they will learn a great deal about how to do business in China from Finn Torjesen and his staff. In an interview found in *Team Horizons* (Volume 3, Issue 1, 2008), he explains one important principle for business in China: "Colonial mentality says, 'I have the expertise, I've learned the language, I'm going to share my expertise, and I'm going to go home when I'm done.' And people know it. An immigrant mentality says, 'I love this place, I'm going to be a part of this community, I'm going to put my roots down here.'"

He has done that. So, too, has his father, a Tyndale alumnus. Perhaps someday other Tyndale alumni from our Business program will retire in Taiyuan as well.

—Dr. Daniel Scott is the university Academic Dean.

High Crosses – The Celtic Christianity Study Tour



▲ Dr. David Sherbino on the far right sightseeing with his group in the north of Ireland.

I am standing on Iona, a tiny island in the inner Hebrides, off the west coast of Scotland. It is sunny, windy and blissfully quiet. Before me is the Iona Abbey with the imposing stone high cross at the entrance.

With my 20 fellow travelers I am here to learn about the influence of this 'cradle of Christianity.' Iona, we learn, was the base from which Irish Celtic Christians reintroduced Christianity to Great Britain in the Middle Ages. The original abbey was founded in 563 by St. Columba who came to Iona from Ireland. It grew quickly and became one of the largest religious centres in Western Europe. After a devastating attack by Vikings in the 8th century, the abbey was eventually rebuilt by the Benedictines in 1203. The most recent restoration was undertaken in 1938 by the Iona Community, an ecumenical Christian movement committed to living the gospel in today's world.

The visit to Iona came half way through the Celtic Christianity study tour led from May 26 to June 7, 2008 by Dr. David Sherbino, Professor of Spirituality and Pastoral Ministry. Covering sites in Ireland, Scotland and England, the tour would take us far back into the history of Celtic spirituality. It also allowed us to explore its contemporary expressions.

The tour began in Ireland where we visited sites associated with St. Patrick, including: the hill of Tara where according to tradition he challenged the pagan priests; the city of Armagh where Patrick built his church in 445 and served as Bishop and also Downpatrick where his tomb is situated. At Glendalough, site of a 5th century monastic community, the surviving stone buildings and imposing high tower seemed to put us within shouting distance of the people who followed St. Kevin to this remote and idyllic spot 17 centuries ago. Glendalough (valley of two lakes) is one of the most visited sites in Ireland, both

because of its extraordinary beauty and the fact that, though in ruins, it still impacts the visitor as a holy place. The Christian witness of centuries lingers here in the peaceful hush and the evidence everywhere of the community's devotion. Though there has not been a church here for some time, there are fresh graves in the graveyard among the centuries-old ones. This is still seen as a place of nearness to God.

St. Patrick and his spiritual descendants would approve. The nearness of God is a central theme in Celtic spirituality. The created world is seen as a sign of that nearness. Christians in this tradition anticipate and celebrate the presence of God in the ordinary events and tasks of daily life. Other prominent themes in Celtic spirituality are: the Trinity, community, soul-friendship and evangelism.

At St. Patrick's and Christ Church cathedrals in Dublin we traced the long line of bishops who led the Church in Ireland from St. Patrick to the present day. We gained a sense of the impact on the Church of Britain's turbulent history.

Also in Dublin we visited Trinity College, Ireland's oldest and most prestigious university, founded in 1592. During this time we saw the famous Book of Kells – a lavishly decorated copy, in Latin, of the four Gospels, handwritten and illustrated by monks at Iona in the 6th century. The Book of Kells is, perhaps, the most famous of the illuminated Biblical manuscripts in existence.

From Dublin we left Ireland behind and headed to Scotland and Iona. Here we switched our attention to St. Columba and his monks. Their evangelistic endeavours would take the Gospel throughout Britain and beyond. Seated in a garden overlooking the abbey and the sea we listened to Dr. Sherbino's lectures on St. Columba and Celtic monasticism.

After the quiet of Iona, came bustling Edinburgh, beautiful and historic. We had time only for a wee visit to spots such as John Knox's house, Edinburgh castle and St. Giles Cathedral. Then it was on to the other great historic centre of Celtic spirituality, Lindisfarne.

It was the missionary monk St. Aidan from Iona who came to this coastal region in north east England in the 7th century. He founded a community which became the spiritual centre of the region of Northumbria. The Lindisfarne Gospels, another illuminated manuscript was produced here. Today the Holy Island of Lindisfarne continues as a centre of Celtic spirituality and we met Ray Simpson, Guardian of Holy Island and leader of the Community of Aidan and Hilda.

Members of this ecumenical community live in various parts of the world and are joined together by their commitment to a particular rule of life based on the Celtic tradition.

We were privileged to have Simpson give us two lectures on contemporary Celtic spirituality, focusing on the themes of nature and evangelism.

Lindisfarne was our last stop. We returned home with hundreds of pictures of monasteries, cathedrals, high crosses, castles, lochs, seascapes and landscapes, inspired by examples of people who sought and followed God and by the rich history of this branch of the Christian Church.

— Dablia Fraser is the Seminary Administrative Assistant for Academic Programs.



▲ High cross outside the abbey, Iona.

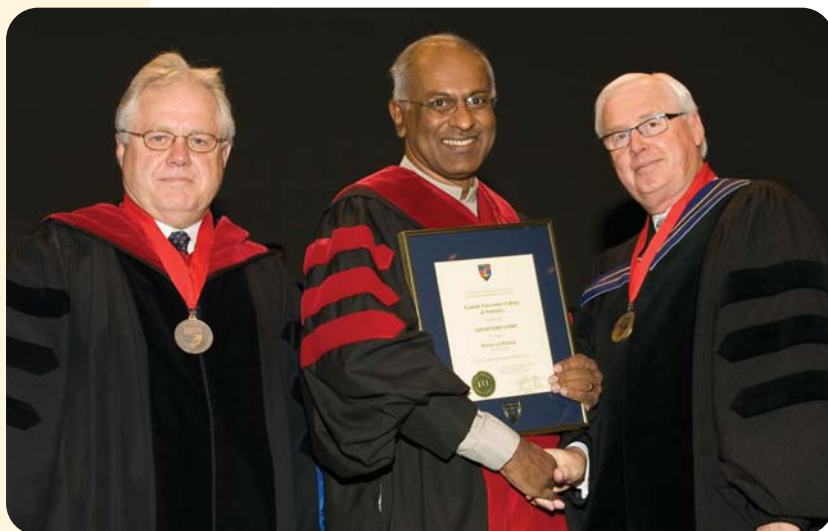
Graduation Memories



▲ Yaovi Ayena and Billie Ang, all smiles before the ceremony.



▲ Graduate Josh Samuels stands with dignity.



▲ Brian Stiller, Ajith Fernando, honorary doctorate recipient and The Honourable Jake Epp, Chancellor.

Ashley Saunders addresses graduates and attendees with her student reflection. ▶



▲ Dr. Lilian Wong, Associate Professor of Psychology, is happy for her graduates.



▲ President Stiller congratulates graduate Paul Clark for his achievement.



◀ Scott Bulloch beams with excitement as President Stiller congratulates him.



▶ A beaming Andrele Jean-Charles takes a moment to reflect her accomplishments while lecturer Susan Ellfeldt hoods her.



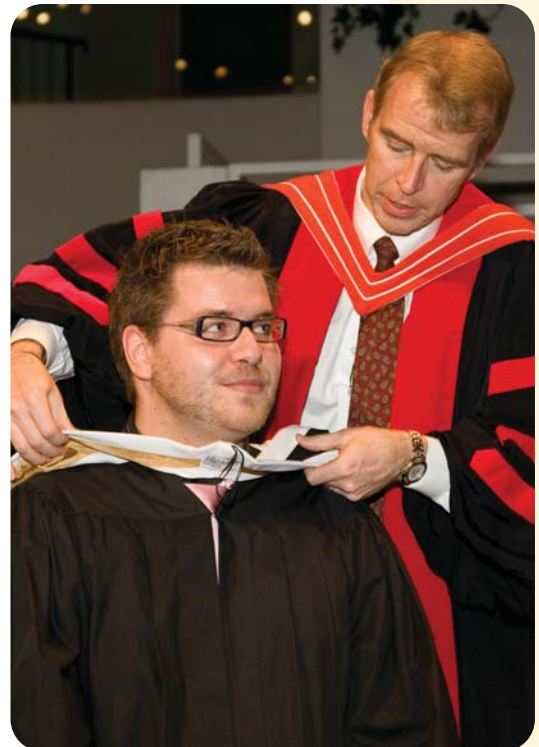
▲ Tara Mansbridge and Dr. Janet Clark, Academic Dean, Seminary.

Heather Liscombe, Laura Carr and Jennifer Hughes ▶
express happiness for their achievements.

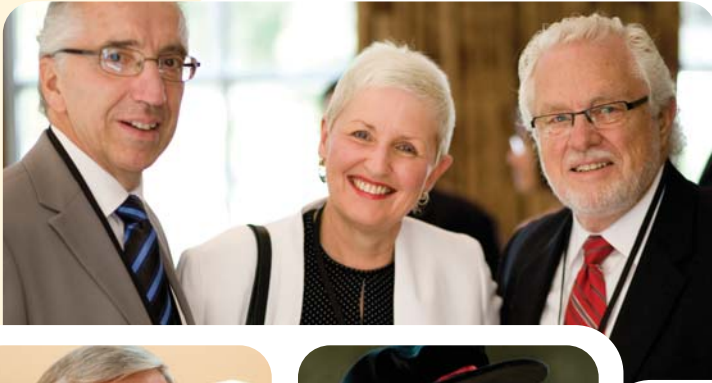


▲ Brian Stiller, Geoffrey Moore, honorary degree recipient and his son Scott Moore.

▼ Dr. Arnold Neufeldt-Fast, Seminary Associate Academic Dean and
Hugh Rendle, Library Director entering in the graduation ceremony.



▲ Gerry Kroezen eagerly anticipates being hooded by Dr. Brad Faught.



- ▲ President and Vice Chancellor Dr. Brian C. Stiller welcomes guests to this historic occasion.
- ◀ Board of Governors members Geoff Moore and Susan Finlay enjoying the morning festivities with David Stiller. Susan is also a member of the Campaign Cabinet.



- ▲ Campaign Chair Tim Hearn shares the Campaign's compelling vision.



- ▲ Sister Margaret Myatt, General Superior, Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto, delivers a scripture reading from Psalm 139: 1-18.



- ▲ Fred Reinders and wife Jane pause for a photo with John and Kerry Carmichael and Roger Lindsay. Fred, Roger and the Carmichaels are members of the Campaign Cabinet.



- ▶ David Zimmer, Willowdale MPP brings Provincial greetings.

Uncommon Ground Campaign Launch Moments

- ▶ Former Tyndale President's Dr. Victor Adrian and Dr. William McRae enjoy a light moment before the ceremonies.

- ▼ Smiling for the camera from left to right: Peter Tang, Winston Ling with wife Stephanie, and Dr. Puiwing Wong with wife Celia. Tang and Ling are members of the Campaign Cabinet. Ling is also Tyndale's VP and Chief Enrollment Officer.



- ▲ Honourary Alumnus Rev. Dr. Minho Song shares of the impact Tyndale had on shaping his life and ministry. Dr. Song currently serves as senior pastor at Young Nak Korean Presbyterian Church of Toronto.

- ▶ Secretary of State, Jason Kenney (Multiculturalism and Canadian Identity minister) brings Federal greetings.



- ▲ Lorna Dueck, Host of ListenUp TV, interviews Campaign Vice Chair Archie McLean and Sister Margaret Myatt, General Superior of the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto at the press conference after the ceremonies. McLean also serves as Chair of Tyndale's Board of Governors.

Save the date for Homecoming 2008!

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On Saturday October 4, 2008 the Alumni Association will be hosting Homecoming at Tyndale's Ballyconnor campus. It is a time to relive long forgotten memories and a place to create new ones. This year's festivities will be, we believe, ones to remember.

Homecoming 2008 will give you the opportunity to *reconnect* old ties with friends and faculty you have lost touch with, *renew* relationships with Tyndale and *rediscover* what the Alumni Association has to offer you.

It is also an opportunity for us. The Alumni Association wants to address what's important to you, regardless if you are in the field of ministry or working in the marketplace. We understand wherever you are in your lives you are doing God's work by being living testimonies and examples for Him.

Homecoming 2008 gives the Alumni Association the opportunity to show our appreciation to you for representing Tyndale so well throughout the world.

In the Alumni surveys you told us what you wanted more of and we listened! So the schedule this year was created with you in mind. The best part about Homecoming is any member of the family can attend. You are encouraged to bring your children to this fun filled day because there will be a separate kids program available. So whether you are young or old – there will be something for everyone.

The agenda this year will consist of a variety of sessions which will appeal to any alumni member, whether you are in ministry or in the marketplace.



The agenda for the day will consist of:

- Kids program
- Networking sessions for alumni and faculty
- Updates about what is new at Tyndale and what the Alumni Association can offer you
- Worship with Tyndale's worship team
- Four development seminars
- Leading Edge break out session (celebrating 10 years)
- BBQ

The Alumni Association is hoping you will attend. Remember, Homecoming will create the perfect opportunity for you to come back to Tyndale to rejuvenate lost ties and find out how your school continues to grow and reach great heights.

We look forward to seeing you on October 4th! This event is free and is open to all alumni and family members, faculty and staff. To register, volunteer or if you require more information, please contact the Alumni Association at alumni@tyndale.ca or 416-226-6620 ext. 2107.

Homecoming 2008

1:00 PM - 5:00 PM

"UNDER THE BIG TOP"

Kids event (Parents can leave their children or can stay and play all day long.) This event includes games, food and fun!

1:00 PM & 2:00 PM

ALUMNI & FACULTY REUNITE

Mingle with alumni, faculty, students and friends.

2:00 PM - 2:45 PM

TYNDALE UPDATES

Join the Alumni Association, meet the Alumni Committee and learn what's going on with Tyndale and Alumni.

3:00 PM - 3:45 PM

SEMINAR

Your choice of two different seminars.

(switch)

4:00 PM - 4:45 PM

SEMINAR

Your choice of two different seminars.

5:00 PM - 6:30 PM

BBQ

Gather for a Tyndale BBQ complete with hot dogs, hamburgers, chicken burgers and much more!

6:30 PM

WORSHIP WITH COLIN OWEN

Join for worship to finish for the day.

Leading Edge Celebrating 10 Years!

The 2008-2009 school year marks the 10th Anniversary of the Leading Edge program at Tyndale. Each Leading Edge participant spent a

formative year exploring the Christian faith, seeking God's direction in life and heading to Camden, New Jersey as part of a team to spend a week in missions with Urban Promise.



Leading Edge alumni are invited to reconnect with their own class at this Alumni Homecoming and meet others who have shared similar experiences. Let's share what happened after that year. One person was so touched by his urban experience that year that he is working in a ministry of compassion today.

Leading Edge continues to make a strong impact on participants. Most recently students have assisted Toronto's Urban Promise and spent a day helping at a homeless shelter. Fun is always factored in—with a wall climbing trip last year. Google "Tyndale Leading Edge" and you will find photos and recent news. Come to Homecoming on October 4, 2008 and meet some of the current Leading Edge students.

—Daniel Wong is Tyndale's university Assistant Professor of Christian Ministries

◀ Situated in the back row, two former Leading Edge students on their way to Camden, New Jersey last April. The students are Azeb Sileshi, 2nd from left and Paul Klapwyk, 5th from left.

Distinguished Alumni Luncheon

Brings Joy and Encouragement

The 2008 Distinguished Alumni luncheon was a time of fellowship, prayer, scrumptious food and encouragement. This year Distinguished Alumni recipients were Edgar "Rik" Lovelady (Diploma 1958) and Elie Haddad (MTS 2003). Both showed the kind of witness you can be if you let God take control and prayerfully do what He wants you to do.

Lovelady's journey to the Distinguished Alumni event took a rough turn. One month before the event, he experienced a heart attack that involved one major artery. At the luncheon he said, "Now with more than three weeks restoration, I feel just great. God is in control!"

God's control was just one of the major themes that emerged from Lovelady's speech. "When I came to Toronto Bible College in 1955, I had nothing to offer educationally. I had only two years of correspondence high school, 20 dollars in my pocket, and a lot of fear and trepidation. At TBC I took a chance that changed my life," he said.

Following graduation in 1958, the Biblical and missionary emphasis he received at TBC prompted him, along with his wife Grace, to enroll in Grace Theological Seminary (GTS) in Indiana. He earned a BA in 1960. Then in 1963 he completed an MDiv summa cum laude also from GTS. He later earned an MA in English from Saint Francis University, a PhD in English from Purdue University and a ThM in Greek from GTS. He pursued further graduate education at Fuller Theological Seminary, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University and the Jerusalem Center for Biblical Studies.

Reflecting on his Tyndale roots Lovelady said, "Through the ministry of this place, now your educational home, God saw fit to claim me for His service and enlarge my vision for the



▲ Pictured left to right: Tyndale President Dr. Brian Stiller, Seminary Distinguished Alumni Elie Haddad and Dr. Janet Clark, Seminary Dean.

field of Christian higher education. Over the years He has guided the process of making something out of nothing in my life. He is surely not finished yet!"

Being faithful to God's call, Distinguished Seminary Alumnus, Elie Haddad enrolled in the MTS Modular Program at Tyndale Seminary in 2000. He became very passionate about the missional church. It was this passion that prompted Haddad and his wife Mireille to return to his native Lebanon. Haddad was appointed

Provost and CEO of the Arab Baptist Theological Seminary in 2005.

Haddad said, "Tyndale's education took me by surprise. It ignited a passion for the missional church and the missional ministry." He has used the foundations Tyndale gave him to shape his ministry at ABTS.

After years of war and neglect in Lebanon, the ABTS had been going through a "renovation" phase. Despite the political uncertainty and instability there, God has been growing and strengthening the ministry in ways that only He can. Lebanon is the only country in the Arab world where non-Christian students can enroll in seminary education. According to Haddad, Tyndale was extremely influential in the development of the new vision/mission of ABTS, and the curriculum that they are developing. Tyndale professor Donald Goertz is helping to create that curriculum.

Both Haddad and Lovelady concluded their speeches by encouraging Tyndale to remain a place for missional theological education. They insisted that we all remember one key thing: it is not about us, it's all about God. To Him we give all the honour and glory.



▲ Pictured left to right: Tyndale President Dr. Brian Stiller, University College Distinguished Alumni Dr. Edgar "Rik" Lovelady and Dr. Daniel Scott, University College Academic Dean.

—Elizabeth Sweet is Tyndale's Alumni Coordinator.

Serving God's Kingdom in the medical field

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Joyce Philip was on a quest to gain a deeper understanding about God's word when she decided to study at Tyndale. When Joyce graduated from the Seminary, she wanted to take her Christian ministry to another level. As a result, she decided to go back to school to study Life Sciences at Queen's University and then venture into medical school.

Natasha Carr: When you were looking for a Christian higher institution what were you looking for specifically?

Joyce Philip: I was looking for a place with a good reputation for training Christian leaders, both in the traditional church setting and in the secular world. I wanted to be in an atmosphere where Christian doctrine was taught without apology, a place where I could grow in my personal walk with God. I was looking for one-year programs that would provide a good foundation in Christian theology.



▲ Joyce Philip on the far right is all smiles with her then first year student colleagues Susan Lee and Natalie Lam.

NC: How did Tyndale fit into these requirements?

JP: I had heard a lot of positive things about Tyndale through my dad, Easaw, and two brothers, Wesley and Josh. Wesley studied at Tyndale, Josh is here now and my dad attended when the school was known as Ontario Bible College. From Josh I knew that Tyndale's reputation was not just based on the past, but that it still maintains a high level of quality Christian education. I ended up coming to Tyndale because its one-year Graduate Diploma of Christian Studies was a great match for my needs. I knew I would get doctrinally sound teaching in a variety of

subjects I was interested in, in an environment that would foster personal Christian growth.

NC: Many graduates say the education they've received at Tyndale has helped them to achieve great accomplishments whether they're in ministry or not. How has Tyndale helped you in your career aspirations?

JP: My experience at Tyndale was truly a blessing. It served as a bridge between my undergraduate degree in Life Sciences at Queen's University and my medical school training at McMaster University. My time at Queen's raised a lot of questions regarding the church, Christian doctrine and the role of Christians in society. Being at Tyndale helped answer some of those questions and helped prepare me to enter my medical education with a worldview that will enable me to make godly decisions as a Christian doctor.

NC: When you were a student at Tyndale, what were you hoping to achieve?

JP: What I hoped to achieve can be summed up by 1 Peter 3:15 which reads, "But in your hearts set apart Christ as Lord. Always be prepared to give an answer to everyone who asks you to give the reason for the hope that you have. But do this with gentleness and respect." I wanted to have a greater understanding of Christ's work in the world and in my life and be equipped to be an effective ambassador in whatever setting God placed me in.

NC: What do you hope to accomplish in the medical field?

JP: What drew me to the medical field were the opportunities I could have to serve people in some of their most difficult circumstances. It allows me to be in a position to help people physically, spiritually, emotionally and mentally. It provides a means to invest in people's lives and be a light of the hope found in Christ.

NC: In your opinion, what about Tyndale makes it a place where future leaders can be trained for leadership, whether they are in ministry or in the marketplace?

JP: Tyndale offers very practical courses that address contemporary issues. The professors are very engaging and encourage discussion to

allow students to think through different ideas. Regardless of the level of Christian ministry people have been engaged in prior to their education at Tyndale, all are challenged to expand their knowledge and grow in leadership.

NC: Tyndale is entering into a new phase of its history with the official launch of their \$58 million Capital Campaign. What do you believe this means for the school?

JP: This campaign will enable Tyndale to expand its boundaries so that more people can take courses that address their needs so that they are better equipped for ministry, be it in a church or missionary setting, the home, school or workplace. Christian education will be made more accessible to people and help Christians be dynamic leaders in their respective mission fields.

NC: What advice do you have for those students who are entering into their first year at Tyndale? What should these students expect?

JP: I would advise first-year students to get a good start on their university or seminary education, and to get the most out of their time at Tyndale. Be intentional. Get to know your Student Council well, and look for opportunities to get involved. Engage with your professors and don't be afraid to bring up doubts or questions. This is your chance to be on the receiving end of teaching, encouragement, prayer and counsel. This may be rare for those of you involved in Christian leadership, so take advantage of this opportunity.

NC: What advice do you have for students who are considering coming to Tyndale?

JP: One of the best things I liked about Tyndale was that my classmates and professors came from all walks of life. Some students had been involved in ministry for years, some were new Christians and others were somewhere in between. And being a transdenominational school, both students and professors all had different church backgrounds. This diversity will give you a greater appreciation for the way God has been working throughout history, and how He is working around the world and in all parts of society today.

—Natasha Carr is the Alumni and the Corporate Communications Assistant at Tyndale.

Alumni

Come Visit our Campus!

Research shows **71%** of students say visiting a campus is their most trusted source of information (Chronicle for Higher Education, 2007). Now's your chance to see what Tyndale has to offer:



TYNDALE
University College



TYNDALE
Seminary

Toronto's Christian University

Tuesday, September 23, 2008	Encounter Day
Tuesday, October 14, 2008	Preview Evening
Wednesday, October 15, 2008	Encounter Day
Saturday, November 15, 2008	Open House
Tuesday, December 2, 2008	Encounter Day
Monday, January 20, 2009	Encounter Day
Tuesday, February 10, 2009	Preview Evening
Saturday, March 7, 2009	Open House
Tuesday, April 7, 2009	Encounter Day

Encounter Day: Come to Tyndale to preview our one-of-a-kind university experience. Meet faculty and students, attend our community chapel, sit in on a class and tour our campus.

Open House: Our Saturday Open Houses are a great way for you, your family and your friends to learn more about Tyndale. Take this opportunity to talk with faculty, students and staff. You can also visit our exhibit hall to speak with representatives from each program.

Preview Evening: Join the fun at an on-campus student event and stay overnight in residence! Chat with students, make new friends and enjoy breakfast on us the morning after.

Visit our website, www.tyndale.ca/university/future/visit, for more information and to register for these events.

Canada's Leading Seminary

Thursday, October 30, 2008	Encounter Day
Saturday, November 15, 2008	Open House
Thursday, January 29, 2009	Encounter Day
Saturday, March 7, 2009	Open House

Encounter Day: A special event for you to experience Tyndale's graduate theological education with other prospective students. Sit in on a class, talk to students and faculty and find out about our flexible learning options.

Open House: Our Saturday Open Houses are a great way for you, your family and your friends to learn more about Tyndale. Talk with faculty, students and staff. You can also visit our exhibit hall to speak with representatives from each program.

Personal Visits: Schedule a personal visit with your admissions counsellor to discuss how graduate theological education can prepare you to serve God's Kingdom in the 21st century. These customized visits are tailored to meet your needs and are scheduled according to your availability.

Visit our website, www.tyndale.ca/seminary/future/visit, for more information and to register for these events.

Giving Our Students a Voice

In April 2008 we invited our university students to participate in two surveys: the Student Satisfaction Inventory (SSI) and a survey from the Canadian University Survey Consortium (CUSC).

The SSI is coordinated by Noel-Levitz, an enrollment management consulting firm. It helps campuses reach and exceed their goals for enrollment, marketing and student success. This inventory measures student satisfaction and priorities which will show us how satisfied our students are as well as what issues are important to them. Tyndale last participated in this survey in spring 2006. Participants include public and private universities across North America.

The CUSC is a group of Canadian universities that work cooperatively to gain a better understanding of the Canadian undergraduate student population. Their survey provides comparative information on student characteristics and experiences. This is the first time that Tyndale has participated



in this survey. Participants in this survey include the University of Toronto, York University and Trinity Western University.

The results of these surveys will be used by our University Retention Committee to improve student success at Tyndale. This Committee has been meeting regularly since October 2007. It is comprised of department heads within the university and student representatives. It will also be used by our Admissions and Marketing

departments to better communicate the great benefits Tyndale has to offer.

Participating in these surveys not only provides an opportunity for our students to voice their opinions and concerns. It allows us to measure our success towards our goals and focus our efforts on those areas that require attention.

Watch out for the results of these surveys which will be published in a later issue of *Connection*.

Reflections on My First Year at Tyndale

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I'm a double major in Religious Studies and Psychology. When asked to write a reflection about my first year in university at Tyndale, my initial thought was 'Where do I ever begin?' My first year was so much more than I had hoped for last September. My only goals then were to get along with my roommate and get good grades. Praise God that His plans were bigger than mine!

From the beginning, I could see how different Tyndale was from my expectations. Within the first week, my Resident Advisors began proving that they actually cared about me and weren't just there to ensure rules were followed! They took time to stop by our room just to chat. That didn't stop as the school year continued. It eliminated my suspicion that they were doing so because it was their job. My roommate and I did get along and also discovered shared passions for late night talks and obscure movie soundtracks. Through residence and the closeness that it provides, I was able to make the two best friends I've ever had. Because there aren't many secrets in dorm life, we were more inclined to open up and share our lives with one another, developing the kind of friendship that will last.

The Tyndale faculty was another wonderful surprise. Though I was told they were much more willing to know their students than professors at larger universities, I was not expecting the level of friendliness that I found. One of my favorite academic experiences was with Dr. Richard Davis, my



▲ Rachel Wielinga (Psychology and Religious Studies, 2011) in the centre, is joined on the left by her Resident Advisor from last year, Kaitlyn McCullough (English and Religious Studies, 2009) and her roommate, Jenn Sye (Leading Edge, 2008; Psychology and Religious Studies, 2011).

philosophy professor. He agreed to read my rough draft of a paper a week before it was due, to tell me what needed to be fixed. To my surprise, he gave me an A and told me not to worry about changing anything! Philosophy was a surprisingly great class, and I've been able to apply what I learned this summer as I read books about different viewpoints on the Christian faith.

I really appreciated the tri-weekly chapels that Tyndale university students attend. I found them a chance to refocus on my priorities and reasons for being at Tyndale.

With the busyness of a full course load (plus extracurricular activities), it can be easy to forget God, or at least put Him on the bottom of the list. Regular worship times with other believers were the reminder I needed to keep the right focus.

During the month of May, I was given the opportunity to be part of a Tyndale mission's team to Alaska. For three weeks, we were able to live and work alongside an incredible missionary family whose dedication to God is inspiring. Having never been on a trip like that before, I know God used it to take me out of my comfort zone and help me grow in ways that never would have happened had I stayed in Canada.

One of the most important lessons I learned this past year is that God is full of surprises. That's why I need to fully trust Him. When I don't trust, those surprises can be upsetting. But when leaning on Him, I can see the good He has for me. I've learned to apply that to my future – after I graduate. I would like to work with teens, the reason I chose the majors I did. However as God showed me, His plans can be completely different. The thing I'm looking forward to most in September is being on Student Council. I think it will be an amazing opportunity to reach more students than I otherwise would have, and I'm excited to see what else God has in store for me!

—Rachel Wielinga is studying Religious Studies and she will be entering her second year.

Volunteer With Tyndale Counselling Services!

Tyndale Counselling Services offers therapists working towards clinical membership with AAMFT opportunity to work towards their required client hours and receive weekly AAMFT approved supervision. Professional volunteer counsellors with Tyndale Counselling Services meet with Tyndale students for a minimum of 5 client hours per week in exchange for 1 hour of approved supervision.

Counsellors must demonstrate a commitment to the mission of Tyndale Counselling Services, which is to *facilitate growth and healing* in the lives of Tyndale students, and to be in agreement with the Tyndale mission statement and statement of faith.

If you are a graduate of the Tyndale MDiv in Counselling program and interested in this opportunity, please contact Sheila Stevens at 416-226-6620 ext. 2122, or ss Stevens@tyndale.ca.



Marriage Preparation Seminar

Date: Friday, May 1st, 2009, 7 – 10 pm
& Saturday, May 2nd, 2009, 10 am – 5 pm

Early bird price (until April 3rd, 2009): \$150 per couple

After April 3rd: \$170 per couple

Rev. Dr. Herman Chow will facilitate this seminar for couples preparing for marriage. Topics will include communication, conflict, finances, sexuality, spirituality and more. *Pre-registration is required.*

Contact Rebecca Chase, Counselling Services Coordinator at 416-226-6620 ext. 2123, or rchase@tyndale.ca or visit our website to download the registration form: www.tyndale.ca/counselling.

Admissions



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www.whatsyourone.ca/visit

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Connection

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